

LEONARDO DOMINGUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leonardo Dominguez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Leonardo Dominguez is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Leonardo Dominguez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Leonardo Dominguez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF A FIERCE EDUCATION ADVOCATE, DR. WALTER LEE SMITH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Dr. Walter Lee Smith, seventh president of Florida A&M University (FAMU) and outstanding citizen of Tampa and Hillsborough County, who passed away on Thursday, November 25, 2021 at the age of 86. A scholar, historian, advocate and educational leader, Dr. Smith was a native of Tampa, Florida, but the impact of his great work reached far beyond our community, having touched the lives of those across Florida, our nation and the world.

Dr. Walter Lee Smith was born in Tampa, Florida on May 13, 1935, to the late Eva Smith (Reynolds). Raised by his mother and stepfather, Rubin Reynolds, a strong work ethic was instilled in Smith from a very young age and applied throughout his childhood raised in Florida, Georgia and New York. He excelled both academically and in sports, all while living through firsthand experiences of racism and segregation within his communities. Smith's perseverance during these instances not only showed signs of his strong character but would go on to influence his professional interests and achievements. Years down the line, Smith would go on to work for the federal government and help to develop Titles IV and VI programs for school desegregation.

As a young adult, Dr. Walter Lee Smith worked pushing clothing racks in the New York Garment district before he went on to enlist in the U.S. Army, having served his nation during the Korean war. Following his military service, Smith returned to Tampa Bay where he enrolled at Gibbs Junior College, the first of

Florida's junior colleges for African American students. Smith was elected as the first student body president during his time at Gibbs. Following this, he went on to attend Florida A&M University and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Chemistry and subsequently a Masters of Education. Smith completed his education by earning a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from The Florida State University.

Before becoming FAMU's seventh president, Smith worked in various roles throughout Tampa as: a 7-Eleven Store manager in Progress Village, a science teacher at Marshall High School in Plant City, assistant director of the Florida Education Association and provost at Hillsborough Community College. From 1974 to 1977, he served as president of Roxbury Community College in Boston, Massachusetts.

Smith was appointed the seventh president of FAMU in 1977, serving in this role until 1985. Under his leadership, FAMU as an educational institution was positively impacted in innumerable ways. The university grew to eleven schools and colleges. Among those added were the School of Allied Health Science, School of General Studies, the School of Journalism & Graphic Communication, the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering and a Division of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education. Various Graduate and Doctorate programs were established under Smith's administration, with the university having offered its first Doctor of Philosophy degree, a Ph.D. in Pharmacology, in 1984. Beyond academics, FAMU's athletic department was greatly developed during Smith's tenure and a \$10-million Centennial Celebration Fund endowment was established, having since grown to more than \$150 million.

But Dr. Smith's educational efforts did not stop there. Following his departure from FAMU, Smith was appointed as a senior Fulbright Scholar and worked abroad with the University of Malawi. In 1994 through 1995, he founded FUNDA, an American style two-year college, specifically in Malawi and South Africa. After his time abroad, Smith worked as a professor at the University of Florida until his retirement in 2000. In 2002, he opened a privately held community library in his hometown of Tampa.

Dr. Smith is survived by his wife, Barbara Abrams Smith; children: Col. John L. Smith (ret.), Andre Smith, Salesia Smith-Gordon, Walter Lee Smith II, Tracey Abrams Butler; grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other members of their extended family.

Along with his family, Smith's lifelong commitment to education will be carried on in a legacy across the various institutions he worked with. In 2007, FAMU named its School of Architecture and Engineering Technology building in honor of Dr. Smith. At the University of Florida, colleagues and former students of Smith's funded the creation of the Walter L. Smith Scholarship to support minority graduate students in educational administration. The Florida State University also holds a scholarship in Dr. Smith's name and in 2015, Hillsborough County Libraries named a reading room at the Robert Saunders Library in his honor as well.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor Dr. Walter Lee Smith and his selfless devotion of strengthening edu-

cation institutions and expanding their accessibility in Tampa, Florida, the United States and beyond. Dr. Smith's legacy is cemented into the history of our community and will live on and inspire others for many years to come.

HONORING SCOTT BUSBOOM'S RETIREMENT

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Scott Busboom of Decatur, Illinois.

Scott has worked in the radio industry for more than 30 years. Most recently, he has spent over 20 plus years broadcasting in Decatur. He spent the past 10 years waking up Decatur with the "Busboom and Wolfe" morning show, which he hosted with long-time television reporter and friend, Doug Wolfe.

Scott was an avid fan and supporter of local high school and college athletics. He has broadcast more than 350 boys' and girls' high school basketball games and more than 325 Millikin University men's and women's games. He broadcast the first Decatur High School girls' game on the radio and was at the microphone for the Millikin women's 2005 NCAA Division III National Championship victory.

Scott helped form the Decatur Thanksgiving Tournament and was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2013.

As a monthly guest on "Busboom and Wolfe" for many years, I will miss our conversations and his presence on Talk 101 FM. I want to congratulate Scott on a long and accomplished career, and I wish him a restful retirement. He truly deserves it.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LYNN MARIE HAMSTRA

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the life and service of Lynn Marie Hamstra. Lynn, with great courage and vigor, lived a full life of loving service to her family and her community. After four and a half years of fighting a fierce battle against an aggressive form of pancreatic cancer, Lynn peacefully passed into the arms of the Lord on March 26, 2022, surrounded by her loved ones. Lynn is survived by her husband, Daniel Hamstra; her daughter, Rachel Hamstra LeMier; her son-in-law, Ryan LeMier; her granddaughter, Olivia Lynn LeMier; her sons, Timothy Hamstra and Zachariah Hamstra; her mother, Adeline Coffey; her sisters, Laura (Coffey) Girgis and Lee Ellen (Coffey) Wilson; and her brothers, Larry and Tony Coffey.

Lynn was born in Chicago on April 19, 1961 to Lawrence Raymond Coffey, Jr., and Adeline Frances Coffey. She was the oldest of five children and excelled in her role as the big sister. During her high school years at Hinsdale Central, Lynn was a world class